

SECRET

January 13, 1983

INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT
DIGITAL SWITCHING POLICY

On November 15, 1982, the United States explained to COCOM its strategic concerns in the area of stored program control circuit switching equipment and production technology. Other COCOM members except France thereupon agreed with a U.S.-proposed consensus that: (1) development and production technology and software are especially sensitive, and (2) the Committee should carefully study hardware to determine what equipment is sensitive and what is not.

In December, State requested our embassies in 13 countries to make demarches to host governments to elicit further support for tighter controls. Embassy reports were generally favorable.

When submitting to the ongoing COCOM List Review a proposal to revise the computer item, the United States noted that it was still considering what conditions should be included concerning conditions for permitting switching equipment exports. The current list contains reasonably adequate controls on production technology.

The USG must now submit a formal proposal concerning controls on switching equipment. DOD is developing a written position which will form the basis of the USG proposal to COCOM. It is essential the USG expeditiously submit a formal proposal to COCOM to retain credibility and have any chance of tightening controls.

State Dept. review completed

NSC review completed.

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DECL: OADR